

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
DALLAS DIVISION**

**STEPHEN McCOLLUM, *et al.*,**  
***Plaintiffs,***

**v.**

**BRAD LIVINGSTON, *et al.*,**  
***Defendants.***

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**CIVIL ACTION NO. 3:12-CV-02037**

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE’S UNOPPOSED MOTION TO SEAL  
PRIVILEGED DOCUMENTS FOR *IN CAMERA* REVIEW**

Comes now, Defendant, The Texas Department of Criminal Justice, by and through the Attorney General for the State of Texas, and files this Unopposed Motion to Seal Privileged Documents for *In Camera* Review. In support thereof, defendant respectfully offers the following:

**I.  
THE PRIVILEGED DOCUMENTS**

Plaintiffs are seeking the Joint Morbidity and Mortality Committee reviews conducted by the Correctional Managed Health Care Committee (“CMHCC”) regarding the deaths of several individuals. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice has asserted that these documents are privileged and has sought a review of the requested documents.

Texas Government Code section 501.150 created the CMHCC to improve access to quality health care while containing cost by maximizing the use of the state’s medical schools. Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 501.150, the CMHCC has established a procedure for monitoring the quality of care delivered by the health care providers. To monitor the quality of care, the CMHCC utilizes several joint committees of its members, including a Joint Morbidity

and Mortality Committee (“Joint M & M committee”), which reviews the circumstances and records of TDCJ offenders’ deaths.

Plaintiffs seek copies of documents related to the CMHCC (Joint M&M Committee), however Texas statutory law prohibits TDCJ from disclosing such medical committee records without a court order. TEX. OCC. CODE § 160.007(a). Accordingly, these records cannot be released unless and until a judge makes a preliminary finding that the medical peer review committee’s proceedings, records, or communications are relevant to a civil rights action brought under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. TEX. OCC. CODE § 160.007(b). Defendants have filed a separate motion asking the Court to make this initial determination of relevance.

## **II. CONCLUSION**

TDCJ has requested that the court rule on its assertions of privilege with respect to their medical morbidity and mortality reviews records. Accordingly TDCJ asks this Court to seal these documents in order to make the *in camera* review TDCJ has requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**GREG ABBOTT**  
Attorney General of Texas

**DANIEL T. HODGE**  
First Assistant Attorney General

**DAVID C. MATTAX**  
Deputy Attorney General for Defense Litigation

**KAREN D. MATLOCK**  
Assistant Attorney General  
Chief, Law Enforcement Defense Division

/s/Bruce R. Garcia

**BRUCE R. GARCIA**

Assistant Attorney General

State Bar No. 07631060

P. O. Box 12548, Capitol Station

Austin, Texas 78711

(512) 463-2080/Fax (512) 495-9139

**ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT  
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE**

**NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING**

I, **BRUCE R. GARCIA**, Assistant Attorney General of Texas, certify that I have electronically submitted for filing **Texas Department of Criminal Justice's Unopposed Motion to Seal Privileged Documents for *In Camera* Review** to the Court, on April 14, 2014 in the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division.

/s/Bruce R. Garcia

**BRUCE R. GARCIA**

Assistant Attorney General

**CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE**

I, **BRUCE R. GARCIA**, do certify that I spoke with Scott Medlock and he is unopposed to the granting of this Motion for the limited purposes listed in this Motion only. I conferred with all other counsel and they are unopposed to the granting of this motion.

/s/Bruce R. Garcia

**BRUCE R. GARCIA**

Assistant Attorney General

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, **BRUCE R. GARCIA**, Assistant Attorney General of Texas, do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing **Texas Department of Criminal Justice's Unopposed Motion to Seal Privileged Documents for *In Camera* Review** has been served by placing same in the United States Mail on this the 14th day of April, 2014, addressed to:

Jeff Edwards  
Scott Medlock  
The Edwards Law Firm  
1101 E. 11th Street  
Austin, TX 78702

Brian McGiverin  
Wayne Krause-Yang  
Texas Civil Rights Project  
4920 N. IH 35.  
Austin, Texas 78751-2716

Kim Coogan  
Office of the Attorney General  
300 West 15<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Austin, Texas 78701

(Via Hand-Delivery)

Demetri Anastasiadis  
Office of the Attorney General  
300 West 15<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Austin, Texas 78701

(Via Hand-Delivery)

/s/Bruce R. Garcia  
**BRUCE R. GARCIA**  
Assistant Attorney General